

Few remarks on the Higgs boson decays in gauge-Higgs unification

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Abstract

In the scenario of gauge-Higgs unification, the origin of the Higgs boson is the higher-dimensional gauge boson. Very characteristic predictions are made of the Higgs boson interactions in this scenario, reflecting its origin. In particular, a remarkable claim has been made: the contribution of nonzero Kaluza-Klein modes to the Higgs decay $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ exactly vanishes in the minimal SU(3) electroweak unified model, at least at the one-loop level. In this brief paper, in order to see whether this prediction is a general feature of the scenario or the consequence of the specific choice of the model, matter content, or the order of perturbative expansion, we perform an operator analysis. We demonstrate that no relevant operator exists, respecting the gauge symmetry SU(3) in the bulk. We also comment on the possibly important contribution to the photonic decay $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ due to the nonzero Kaluza-Klein modes of light quarks.

1 Introduction

In spite of the great success of the Higgs boson's discovery by LHC experiments [1, 2], we have not understood the origin of the Higgs boson yet. Namely, we do not have any conclusive argument on the important issue of whether the discovered particle is just what we have in the standard model (SM) or a particle within some theory beyond the standard model (BSM) that predicts the presence in its low-energy effective theory. Concerning this issue, the LHC data have provided us a great hint: they have revealed that the Higgs boson is “light” with the mass of the order of the weak scale M_W . This fact strongly suggests that the Higgs self-coupling is governed by the gauge principle. We may think of a few candidates of BSM that share this property. One is the minimal supersymmetric standard model (MSSM), where the Higgs self-coupling is due to the D-term contribution and $M_H \sim M_Z$ is predicted at the classical level. In this paper we focus on another attractive scenario, i.e. gauge-Higgs unification (GHU), where the Higgs boson is originally a gauge boson.

More precisely, in this scenario the Higgs field is identified as the [Kaluza-Klein (KK) zero mode of] the extra-space component of the higher-dimensional gauge field [3] and its vacuum expectation value (VEV) leads to spontaneous gauge symmetry breaking [4, 5, 6]. A nice feature of this scenario from the viewpoint of particle physics is that by virtue of (higher-dimensional) gauge symmetry, the quantum correction to the Higgs mass is UV-finite once the contributions of all KK modes are summed up at the intermediate state of the loop diagram, thus leading to a new avenue for the solution of the hierarchy problem [7].

To get a conclusive understanding of the origin of the Higgs boson, the extensive studies of the Higgs couplings and decays are obviously very important. In particular, it is of crucial importance to clarify the characteristic difference between the theoretical predictions of the SM and possible BSM models. Such differences are to be tested in the ongoing LHC and planned ILC experiments.

Reflecting the origin of the Higgs boson as a gauge boson, the GHU scenario makes very characteristic predictions on the Higgs interactions. First let us note that in GHU the Higgs field can be understood as a sort of Aharonov-Bohm (AB) phase or Wilson-loop phase. That is why the VEV of the Higgs field, which is nothing but a constant gauge field in GHU, has physical meaning. We thus expect that physical observables are periodic in the Higgs field, which is a property clearly not shared by the SM. This characteristic property has been discussed to lead to “anomalous” Higgs interaction, i.e., interactions which deviate from those predicted by the SM [8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14]. A typical example is Yukawa coupling for light fermions (like the fermions of first and second generations), which is always smaller than that of the SM [14] and even vanishes for a specific choice of the compactification scale [8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13], though such a drastic possibility has been ruled out by the recent LHC data.

The photonic decay $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, which plays an important role in the identification of the

Higgs boson, was first discussed in GHU by Maru and Okada in their pioneering work [15], and they found that the decay rate is suppressed compared to that of the SM. Maru also made an operator analysis to show the finiteness of the amplitude for the gluon fusion process (for arbitrary space-time dimension with one extra dimension), the main production process of the Higgs boson [16].

As another characteristic prediction of GHU, Maru and Okada have made a very interesting claim that in the minimal five-dimensional (5D) electroweak SU(3) GHU model with orbifold extra space S^1/Z_2 [17, 18], the contribution of nonzero KK modes to $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ decay exactly vanishes, at least at the one-loop level [19]. This characteristic prediction will be very helpful to distinguish the GHU scenario from other possible scenarios of BSM, where there is no reason to expect that the contributions of heavy new particles to $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ should vanish. A similar analysis has been made in the SO(5) \times U(1) GHU model formulated on the Randall-Sundrum background, and the contribution has been shown to be strongly suppressed, even though it is not forbidden in this model [20].

In this paper, we perform an operator analysis for $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ decay, together with $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ decay for comparison, in order to understand the deep reason why the contribution of the new particles (nonzero KK modes) to $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ is prohibited, while the corresponding contribution to $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ is as we naively expect. The operator analysis will also be useful to see whether this prediction is a general feature of the scenario or the consequence of the specific choice of the model and/or matter content. Another issue is that in the previous work [15, 19], the analysis was restricted to the one-loop level. In particular, concerning the interesting $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ decay, the authors claimed that it is impossible to draw the relevant Feynman diagram for the process at the one-loop level. We would like to point out that another merit of our operator analysis is that the conclusion does not depend on the order of the perturbative expansion, since quantum corrections at all orders of perturbation are concentrated on the (Wilson coefficients of) gauge-invariant operators, as long as they even exist.

We will point out that in the minimal SU(3) model, there is no gauge-invariant bulk operator responsible for the $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ decay, while there exists a relevant operator for the photonic decay $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ with mass dimension 6, including the effect of the non-local operator, the Wilson loop. This means that in the minimal model the contribution of the nonzero KK modes to the $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ decay is strictly prohibited.

Another issue to be discussed in this paper is the question of whether nonzero KK modes of light quarks contribute significantly or not to the $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ decay in the framework of GHU. In the SM such light quarks are known to give negligible contributions to the decay, just because their Yukawa couplings are very small. In the model we are interested in, however, the situation is different. The Yukawa couplings of nonzero KK modes are not suppressed as in the case of the zero mode and are roughly of the order of the gauge coupling. Thus there is an interesting possibility to get a contribution that is comparable to that of the nonzero KK modes of the heavy t quark.

2 An operator analysis on $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ decays in GHU

We first discuss what operator is responsible for the photonic decay $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, assuming only the gauge symmetry of the standard model and readily generalize the argument for the case of $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$. The operator analysis in the framework of GHU will be given afterwards.

Both $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ decays are not allowed at the tree level in the SM; thus the relevant operators for these decays should have mass dimension $d > 4$. We may naively expect that the operator responsible for the photonic decay, respecting $U(1)_{\text{em}}$ symmetry, is

$$H F_{\mu\nu}^{(\gamma)} F^{(\gamma)\mu\nu}, \quad (1)$$

with $d = 5$. Here H is the physical Higgs field and $F_{\mu\nu}^{(\gamma)}$ is the field strength of the photonic field γ_μ . This operator, however, is not enough. In fact, if this $d = 5$ operator were responsible for the decay, in higher dimensional models with 5D space-time, the sum over the contributions of all nonzero KK modes to the Wilson coefficient of (1) should be UV-divergent, since $\sum_n 1/(n/R)$ (n is a positive integer denoting KK modes and R is the size of the extra space) is divergent. As a matter of fact, the KK mode sum turns out to be finite [15]. The point is that the operator (1) does not respect the gauge symmetry of the SM, since H behaves as a $SU(2)_L$ doublet, while γ_μ belongs to the triplet or singlet of $SU(2)_L$. Let us note that even though the gauge symmetry of the SM is eventually broken spontaneously, all quantum corrections can be written as the contributions to the Wilson coefficients of the gauge-invariant operators, including, in general, the Higgs doublet.

We thus realize that actually the relevant gauge-invariant operators should be at least $d = 6$:

$$\phi^\dagger \phi \text{Tr}(W_{\mu\nu} W^{\mu\nu}), \quad \phi^\dagger \phi B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}, \quad (\phi^\dagger W_{\mu\nu} \phi) B^{\mu\nu}, \quad (2)$$

where ϕ denotes the Higgs doublet and $W_{\mu\nu}$ and $B_{\mu\nu}$ are the field strengths of $SU(2)_L$ and $U(1)_Y$ gauge bosons, respectively. After the replacement, $h \rightarrow v + H$ (v is the VEV of the Higgs field and H is the physical Higgs field) in the neutral component of the Higgs doublet, (2) reproduces (1). Similarly, the relevant $d = 6$ operators for the decay $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ are those in (2) (with different linear combinations of the three operators from the case of the photonic decay).

2.1 Local operators

Now we are ready to discuss what operators are responsible for the $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ decays in the framework of GHU. Here we concentrate on possible gauge-invariant local operators in the bulk.

First we consider the simplest $d = 6$ (from the viewpoint of 4D space-time) operators, since if they ever exist they describe the leading contributions of nonzero KK modes. Here

as the model to work with we adopt the minimal 5D SU(3) electroweak unified model of GHU with orbifold extra space S^1/Z_2 [17, 18].

A key issue here is that in the GHU scenario, the Higgs field is nothing but a gauge field and the relevant gauge-invariant operators should be written solely in terms of the higher-dimensional gauge field A_M in a 3×3 matrix form. Thus the SU(3)-invariant $d = 6$ local operator turns out to be unique [21]:

$$\text{Tr}\{(D_L F_{MN})(D^L F^{MN})\}, \quad (3)$$

where F_{MN} and D_L are the field strength of A_M and its covariant derivative.

We now demonstrate that the operator (3) does not contain the operators responsible for the decays $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ of our interest. For that purpose we explicitly write the KK zero mode of the 4D gauge field A_μ and 4D scalar field (extra-space component) A_y , retaining only to the fields relevant for the decays, γ_μ , Z_μ , and h denoting the real part of the neutral Higgs field:

$$A_\mu = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}\gamma_\mu & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\gamma_\mu - Z_\mu & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\gamma_\mu + Z_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \gamma_\mu T_\gamma + Z_\mu T_Z, \quad (4)$$

$$A_y = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & h \\ 0 & h & 0 \end{pmatrix} = h T_h, \quad (5)$$

where $T_\gamma = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}\lambda_3 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda_8 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}Q$, $T_Z = \frac{1}{4}\lambda_3 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}\lambda_8$, $T_h = \frac{1}{2}\lambda_6$ with $\lambda_{3,6,8}$ being Gell-Mann matrices and Q the charge operator. We should note that T_γ etc. satisfy the following orthogonality condition:

$$\text{Tr}(T_\gamma T_Z) = \text{Tr}(T_\gamma T_h) = \text{Tr}(T_Z T_h) = 0. \quad (6)$$

There are three possible choices concerning the indices M, N, L in (3), depending on whether the indices take the 4D vector index denoted by μ, ν ($= 0, 1, 2, 3$) etc. or y denoting the extra-space component:

$$(1) \text{Tr}\{(D_y F_{\mu\nu})(D^y F^{\mu\nu})\}$$

We note from (4) that $[A_\mu, A_\nu] = 0$ and that the operation D_y is equivalent to taking the commutator with A_y , as the derivative with respect to the extra-space coordinate y vanishes when applied to the KK zero mode, which has a constant mode function in the case of flat 5D space-time. Thus

$$D_y F_{\mu\nu} = -ig[A_y, \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu] = -igh(\partial_\mu Z_\nu - \partial_\nu Z_\mu)[T_h, T_Z], \quad (7)$$

where we have used $[T_h, T_\gamma] = 0$, just reflecting the fact that h is electrically neutral. This means that the operator $\text{Tr}\{(D_y F_{\mu\nu})(D^y F^{\mu\nu})\}$, being proportional to the square of $h(\partial_\mu Z_\nu - \partial_\nu Z_\mu)$ does not contribute to $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ nor to $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ of our interest.

$$(2) \text{Tr}\{(D_\mu F_{\nu y})(D^\mu F^{\nu y})\}$$

In this case

$$\begin{aligned} D_\mu F_{\nu y} &= D_\mu(\partial_\nu h T_h - ig Z_\nu h [T_Z, T_h]) \\ &= (\partial_\mu \partial_\nu h) T_h - ig \{Z_\mu \partial_\nu h + Z_\nu \partial_\mu h + (\partial_\mu Z_\nu) h\} [T_Z, T_h] - g^2 Z_\mu Z_\nu h [T_Z, [T_Z, T_h]] \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Let us note that the antisymmetric part under $\mu \leftrightarrow \nu$ is identical to (7), as it should be from the Bianchi identity $D_y F_{\mu\nu} + D_\mu F_{\nu y} + D_\nu F_{y\mu} = 0$. Since (9) does not contain the photonic field, $\text{Tr}\{(D_\mu F_{\nu y})(D^\mu F^{\nu y})\}$ does not contribute to $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ nor $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$.

$$(3) \text{Tr}\{(D_y F_{\mu y})(D^\mu F^{\mu y})\}$$

$$D_y F_{\mu y} = -igh[T_h, \partial_\mu h T_h - ig Z_\mu h [T_Z, T_h]] = -g^2 Z_\mu h^2 [T_h, [T_Z, T_h]]. \quad (10)$$

Again, $\text{Tr}\{(D_y F_{\mu y})(D^\mu F^{\mu y})\}$ does not contribute to $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ nor to $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$.

We thus have shown that there is no $d = 6$ gauge-invariant operator responsible for $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ or $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$. The argument above can be generalized to gauge-invariant operators with arbitrary mass dimension. The building block of the gauge-invariant operators is the successive operation of the covariant derivative to the field strength, $D_{L_1} \cdots D_{L_n} F_{MN}$, the generalization of $D_L F_{MN}$. Suitably taking Tr of the product of these building blocks we get various gauge-invariant operators.

Let us now investigate what kinds of operators we obtain from $D_{L_1} \cdots D_{L_n} F_{MN}$. (As a specific case we include the situation where there is no covariant derivative.) We retain only the terms up to linear in Z_μ , since we are interested in the decays with no or one Z boson in the final state. We also note that $D_y = -igh[T_h, \cdot]$ when operating to the KK zero modes and $D_\mu = \partial_\mu - ig Z_\mu [T_Z, \cdot]$ when operating to neutral fields.

We classify into two cases depending on the choice of the indices M, N .

$$(1) D_{L_1} \cdots D_{L_n} F_{\mu\nu}$$

We first note $F_{\mu\nu} = (\partial_\mu \gamma_\nu - \partial_\nu \gamma_\mu) T_\gamma + (\partial_\mu Z_\nu - \partial_\nu Z_\mu) T_Z$. So we consider each of the following two cases:

$$(1a) D_{L_1} \cdots D_{L_n} (\partial_\mu \gamma_\nu - \partial_\nu \gamma_\mu) T_\gamma$$

As the operation of D_y to the photonic field γ_μ or its space-time derivatives yields a vanishing result because of $[T_h, T_A] = 0$, the only possible type of operator in this case is

$$D_{\mu_1} \cdots D_{\mu_n} (\partial_\mu \gamma_\nu - \partial_\nu \gamma_\mu) T_\gamma = \partial_{\mu_1} \cdots \partial_{\mu_n} (\partial_\mu \gamma_\nu - \partial_\nu \gamma_\mu) T_\gamma. \quad (11)$$

$$(1b) D_{L_1} \cdots D_{L_n} (\partial_\mu Z_\nu - \partial_\nu Z_\mu) T_Z$$

In this case, again the operation of D_{μ_i} is equivalent to ∂_{μ_i} , since we are interested in the operators up to linear in Z_μ and $[T_\gamma, T_Z] = [T_\gamma, T_h] = 0$. Also noting that D_y is equivalent to $-igh[T_h, \cdot]$, we get operators of the form

$$h^m \partial_{\mu_1} \cdots \partial_{\mu_l} (\partial_\mu Z_\nu - \partial_\nu Z_\mu) [T_h, [T_h, \cdots [T_h, T_Z] \cdots]]. \quad (12)$$

$$(2) D_{L_1} \cdots D_{L_n} F_{\mu y}$$

We note $F_{\mu y} = \partial_\mu h T_h - ig Z_\mu h [T_Z, T_h]$ as in (9). So we consider each of the following two cases:

$$(2a) D_{L_1} \cdots D_{L_n} (\partial_\mu h) T_h$$

If there appears D_y in $D_{L_1} \cdots D_{L_n}$, there should be one and only one D_μ behaving as $-ig Z_\mu [T_Z, \cdot]$ to the right of the rightmost D_y . Otherwise, the operation of D_y to $(\partial_\mu h) T_h$ yields $[T_h, T_h] = 0$. Thus what we obtain in this case is either operators containing only the Higgs field

$$\partial_{\mu_1} \cdots \partial_{\mu_n} \partial_\mu h T_h \quad (13)$$

or operators of the form

$$h^m Z_\mu [T_h, [T_h, \cdots [T_Z, T_h] \cdots]], \quad (14)$$

where possible space-time derivatives acting on the fields have been suppressed for simplicity.

$$(2b) D_{L_1} \cdots D_{L_n} (Z_\mu h) [T_Z, T_h]$$

The covariant derivative D_μ among $D_{L_1} \cdots D_{L_n}$ is equivalent to ∂_μ , as we are not interested in the operators containing Z_μ more than one time, while D_y behaves as ‘ $-igh[T_h, \cdot]$ ’. We thus get operators of the same form as the one in (14).

A few remarks are now in order. First, we have checked that the results above on the possible types of operators also can be confirmed by use of the method of mathematical induction. As the second remark, it may be interesting to note that the generators $T_h = \frac{1}{2}\lambda_6$ and $T_Z = \frac{1}{4}\lambda_3 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}\lambda_8$ act only on the lower two components of the fundamental triplet representation of $SU(3)$, i.e., as if they are the generators of the subgroup $SU(2)$ acting as Pauli matrices σ_1 and σ_3 , respectively. In this viewpoint, $T_\gamma = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}\lambda_3 + \frac{1}{4}\lambda_8 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}Q$ behaves as unit matrix I_2 in the subspace:

$$T_\gamma \sim I_2, \quad T_h \sim \sigma_1, \quad T_Z \sim \sigma_3, \quad (15)$$

where multiplied constant factors have been suppressed. This leads to

$$[T_h, [T_h, \cdots [T_h, T_Z] \cdots]] \sim \sigma_2 \text{ or } \sigma_3, \quad (16)$$

depending on whether the number of the action of T_h is odd or even.

Now it is easy to see whether relevant operators exist for $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$. Concerning the photonic decay $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, we should take two operators of the type (11) and one operator of the type (13). Let us note that we cannot take the operator of the type (13) more than once, since $\partial_\mu h$ is proportional to the physical Higgs field H even after the replacement, $h \rightarrow v + H$. Multiplying these operators and then taking Tr , and by use of the fact, $\text{Tr}(T_\gamma^2 T_h) \sim \text{Tr}\sigma_1 = 0$, we conclude that no gauge-invariant local operator exists to describe $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$. We may also argue, relying on the gauge symmetry of the SM, especially $SU(2)_L$ symmetry, that an operator with two photonic fields and one Higgs field, as is seen

in (1), is not allowed. We will argue later that when the effects of global operators are taken into account, we get the $d = 6$ operator responsible for the photonic decay.

Concerning another decay $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$, we should take one operator of the type (11), one operator of the type (12) or (14), and at most one operator of the type (13), and we should multiply all of them, finally taking Tr . We now realize that after taking Tr the operator vanishes, since [from (15) and (16)]

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Tr}(T_\gamma[T_h, [T_h, \dots [T_h, T_Z] \dots]]) &\sim \text{Tr}(I_2\sigma_3) = 0, \\ \text{Tr}(T_\gamma T_h[T_h, [T_h, \dots [T_h, T_Z] \dots]]) &\sim \text{Tr}(I_2\sigma_1\sigma_2) = 0,\end{aligned}\tag{17}$$

where we have used the fact that we should have even numbers of T_h , in order to guarantee the $\text{SU}(2)_L$ gauge invariance. Thus we finally conclude that no gauge-invariant local operator exists to describe $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$.

2.2 The contributions of global operators

As a characteristic feature of the GHU models compactified on non-simply-connected extra space such as a circle, the Wilson loop $W = \exp(ig \oint A_y dy)$ due to the KK zero mode of A_y , namely, the Higgs field, makes physical sense. We now expand our argument to include this gauge-covariant global operator in the operator analysis. As a matter of fact, in 5D GHU the Higgs potential is induced at the quantum level and is written in terms of W .

Including the Wilson loop, the simplest possibility to get the gauge-invariant operator responsible for the Higgs decays of our interest should be

$$\text{Tr}(W^m)\text{Tr}(F_{MN}F^{MN}) \rightarrow \text{Tr}(A_y^2)\text{Tr}(F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}) \rightarrow h^2\{2\text{Tr}(W_{\mu\nu}W^{\mu\nu}) + B_{\mu\nu}B^{\mu\nu}\}.\tag{18}$$

Thus obtained, the $d = 6$ operator clearly contributes to the photonic decay but not to $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$, since

$$2\text{Tr}(W_{\mu\nu}W^{\mu\nu}) + B_{\mu\nu}B^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow F_{\mu\nu}^{(\gamma)}F^{(\gamma)\mu\nu} + (\partial_\mu Z_\nu - \partial_\nu Z_\mu)(\partial^\mu Z^\nu - \partial^\nu Z^\mu),\tag{19}$$

when it is rewritten in terms of γ_μ and Z_μ . More generally, we can think of operators of the form $\text{Tr}(W^m) \times (\text{gauge-invariant local operators})$ with arbitrary mass dimension. By similar argument as the one used for the purely local operators, we again exclude the possibility to get an operator responsible for $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$.

To summarize the conclusion in this section, we have found the $d = 6$ operator for $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ by taking the effect of the global operator into account, while the possibility of the gauge-invariant bulk operator responsible for $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ is completely excluded.

The absence of the relevant operator explains why the contribution of nonzero KK modes to $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ exactly vanishes in the minimal $\text{SU}(3)$ GHU model [19]. Let us make a brief comment on how the argument extended above may change in the case of the $\text{SO}(5) \times \text{U}(1)$

GHU model. In this model, since the gauge group is not a simple group, the Wilson coefficients of $2h^2\text{Tr}(W_{\mu\nu}W^{\mu\nu})$ and $h^2B_{\mu\nu}B^{\mu\nu}$ in (18) are anticipated to be different in general, which in turn means that when an orthogonal transformation to the base of γ_μ and Z_μ is made, the operators yield an operator responsible for $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$, i.e., $h^2F_{\mu\nu}^{(\gamma)}Z^{\mu\nu}$. This may be a reason why the contribution of the nonzero KK modes to the decay is not forbidden in the $\text{SO}(5)\times\text{U}(1)$ GHU model [20].

It may be interesting to ask whether the absence of the relevant operator for $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ in the minimal $\text{SU}(3)$ model also means that the contribution of the KK zero mode also vanishes or not. It is interesting to note that in the $\text{SU}(3)$ model the contribution of the KK zero mode of the $\text{SU}(3)$ triplet fermion (u_L, d_L, d_R) (for the first generation) to $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ is known to vanish, since the decay amplitude is proportional to $T_3 - 2e_f \sin^2 \theta_W$, where T_3 denotes the weak isospin and the e_f is the charge of the fermion [22]. In this simplified model u_L does not couple with the Higgs field and $\sin^2 \theta_W = \frac{3}{4}$, while $T_3 = -\frac{1}{2}$, $e_f = -\frac{1}{3}$ for the contribution of the d quark.

We, however, naively expect that the contribution of the KK zero mode just recovers that of the SM. In fact, the contribution of the KK zero mode of A_μ , i.e., the W^\pm boson, to $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ is known to be nonvanishing, even for $\sin^2 \theta_W = \frac{3}{4}$ [22]. So it should be reasonable to expect that in a realistic model with the realistic weak mixing angle, the SM prediction is recovered.

We also note that the orbifolding breaks the $\text{SU}(3)$ gauge symmetry in the bulk into the symmetry of the SM in the sector of the KK zero mode of A_μ . This may be the reason why the W^\pm boson contributes to the decay, since the KK zero mode of A_μ contains only the gauge bosons of the SM [the “incomplete multiplet” of $\text{SU}(3)$]. Hence, the contribution is not restricted by the operator analysis done above relying on the $\text{SU}(3)$ symmetry. On the other hand, the quarks form a “complete multiplet” of $\text{SU}(3)$ triplet, if we ignore the difference of their chiralities, and their contributions respect the $\text{SU}(3)$ symmetry. In the language of operators, the orbifolding may cause brane-localized operators, which respect only the gauge symmetry of the SM, as the contribution of the KK zero mode. As a matter of fact, the operators including the Wilson loop $\text{Tr}(W^m)\text{Tr}(W_{\mu\nu}W^{\mu\nu}) \rightarrow h^2\text{Tr}(W_{\mu\nu}W^{\mu\nu})$ and $\text{Tr}(W^m)B_{\mu\nu}B^{\mu\nu} \rightarrow h^2B_{\mu\nu}B^{\mu\nu}$ may be generated with different Wilson coefficients, in general, which result in the operator responsible for the $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ decay, after the orthogonal transformation into the base of γ_μ and Z_μ .

2.3 On the matter content of the model

Let us note that the results on the Higgs decay obtained above, relying on the gauge-invariant operators, do not refer to the matter content of the $\text{SU}(3)$ model and are expected to hold irrespectively of the detail of the content. However, for the model to be viable, it is of crucial importance whether the model can incorporate quarks and leptons as the matter fields.

As has already been mentioned above, each component of the $SU(3)$ triplet has a fractional electric charge and the triplet fermions are identified with a quark multiplet: (u_L, d_L, d_R) (for the first generation). Then an important question is whether we can incorporate leptons with integer charges. Since the fundamental representation has fractional charges, $\frac{2}{3}, -\frac{1}{3}$, it will be natural to expect that the third-rank totally symmetric tensor representation, i.e., 10-dimensional tensor representation, has integer charges. In fact, it is easy to know that the representation contains $SU(2)_L$ doublet and singlet, which can be identified with (ν_{eL}, e_L^-) and e_R^- , respectively (again, for the first generation). The $SU(2)_L$ doublet also may be incorporated in the adjoint 8 representation, though whose $SU(2)_L$ singlet component does not carry electric charge and cannot be identified with e_R^- . In any case, in addition to the desired leptonic fields, some exotic fields appear and a mechanism to remove such exotic states will be needed. A possible mechanism is to introduce brane-localized fermions, which form massive Dirac fields together with the exotic fields and decouple from the low-energy effective theory [23].

Another way to adjust the electric charges of the leptonic sector is, instead of introducing a higher-dimensional representation of $SU(3)$, to add a $U(1)$ factor, thus making the gauge group, e.g., $SU(3) \times U(1)$. We, however, would like to point out that in this case, just as in the case of $SO(5) \times U(1)$, the operator responsible for $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ appears and the decay is not strictly forbidden.

3 The contribution of nonzero KK modes of light quarks to the $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ decay

In this section we discuss the possible important contributions of nonzero KK modes of light quarks to the photonic decay $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$.

We first give a generic formula for the contribution of a fermion with the mass m , the charge eQ , and Yukawa coupling f . The contribution of the fermion to the decay amplitude can be written in the form of the effective Lagrangian, whose operator has appeared in (1):

$$\mathcal{L} = C_f H F_{\mu\nu}^{(\gamma)} F^{(\gamma)\mu\nu}, \quad (20)$$

where the Wilson coefficient is given as [22]

$$C_f = -\frac{f\alpha Q^2}{2\pi m} \cdot I(\tau), \quad (21)$$

with $\alpha = e^2/(4\pi)$. The function is defined as

$$I(\tau) = -\frac{\tau}{2} + \frac{\tau(\tau-1)}{2} (\sin^{-1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\tau}})^2, \quad (22)$$

with

$$\tau = \frac{4m^2}{m_h^2}. \quad (23)$$

In the limit $\tau \rightarrow \infty$, i.e., $m \gg m_h$, the function is well approximated by

$$I(\tau) \simeq -\frac{\tau}{2} + \frac{\tau(\tau-1)}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\tau}} + \frac{1}{6} \frac{1}{(\sqrt{\tau})^3} \right)^2 \rightarrow I(\infty) = -\frac{1}{3}. \quad (24)$$

Now we are ready to calculate the contribution of nonzero KK modes of a light quark with charge Q in the GHU scenario. The Yukawa coupling of its KK zero mode is exponentially suppressed by a factor $e^{-\pi MR}$ (M is the bulk mass and R is the radius of S^1) compared with g_4 (the 4D gauge coupling) to realize the light quark. Such exponential suppression is due to the localization of mode functions of left- and right-handed fermions at the different fixed points of the orbifold depending on their chiralities, caused by the presence of the “ Z_2 -odd” bulk mass term.

The motivation of our study concerning the contribution of nonzero KK modes is the fact that their Yukawa couplings are no longer exponentially suppressed as in the case of the KK zero mode, since their mode functions are not localized at the fixed points, behaving as ordinary trigonometric functions, roughly speaking. Thus their Yukawa couplings are comparable to the gauge coupling. Therefore, there is the chance to get a contribution to the Wilson coefficient C_f of Eq.(21) from the nonzero KK modes of light quarks, which is comparable to that of the nonzero KK modes of the t quark.

We will reasonably assume that the masses of nonzero KK fermions denoted by $m_n^{(\pm)}$ ($n = 1, 2, \dots$) are much greater than the Higgs mass,

$$m_h \ll m_n^{(\pm)}. \quad (25)$$

As was discussed in [14, 15, 21], in GHU scenario the n th mass eigenvalue splits into two eigenvalues by the effect of the Higgs VEV:

$$m_n^{(\pm)} = \frac{n}{R} \pm M_W \quad (26)$$

with $M_W = \frac{g_4}{2}v$ for the simplified case of the vanishing bulk mass, $M = 0$.

Under (25), the coefficient $C_n^{(\pm)}$ denoting the contribution of the KK mode with the mass $m_n^{(\pm)}$ can be written [by use of (24) and (21)] as

$$C_n^{(\pm)} \simeq \frac{f_n^{(\pm)} \alpha Q^2}{6\pi m_n^{(\pm)}}, \quad (27)$$

where $f_n^{(\pm)}$ is the Yukawa coupling of the KK mode, which is generally obtained by taking the derivative of the mass eigenvalue with respect to the VEV [14],

$$f_n^{(\pm)} = \frac{\partial m_n^{(\pm)}}{\partial v} = \frac{g_4}{2} \frac{\partial m_n^{(\pm)}}{\partial M_W}. \quad (28)$$

Thus, what we have to do is to perform the KK mode sum

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{f_n^{(\pm)}}{m_n^{(\pm)}} (= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{g_4}{2} \frac{\partial \log m_n^{(\pm)}}{\partial M_W}). \quad (29)$$

In the SU(3) GHU model with the bulk mass M , as was discusses in [14], the mass eigenvalue is the solution of

$$\pm (-1)^n \sin(M_W \pi R) = \frac{m_n^{(\pm)}}{\sqrt{m_n^{(\pm)2} - M^2}} \sin(\sqrt{m_n^{(\pm)2} - M^2} \pi R). \quad (30)$$

Although this equation cannot be solved analytically for $m_n^{(\pm)}$, it is still possible to get the eigenvalue approximately by utilizing the perturbative expansion in terms of M_W . Ignoring the $\mathcal{O}(M_W^3)$, $m_n^{(\pm)}$ is written as

$$m_n^{(\pm)} \simeq \sqrt{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2} + \alpha_n^{(\pm)} M_W + \beta_n^{(\pm)} M_W^2. \quad (31)$$

The reason to keep the terms up to $\mathcal{O}(M_W^2)$ is that the operators in (2) suggest that the contribution to the decay amplitude appears only at the second order of the weak scale.

From (31), we get the following approximate relations:

$$\begin{aligned} \sin(\sqrt{m_n^{(\pm)2} - M^2} \pi R) &\simeq (-1)^n \left\{ \frac{\sqrt{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2}}{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)} \alpha_n^{(\pm)} (M_W \pi R) + \frac{\sqrt{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2}}{n\pi} \beta_n^{(\pm)} (M_W \pi R)^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{2} \frac{M^2}{n\pi \left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2} \alpha_n^{(\pm)2} (M_W \pi R)^2 \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

Substituting these approximate relations in the rhs of (30), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{m_n^{(\pm)}}{\sqrt{m_n^{(\pm)2} - M^2}} \sin(\sqrt{m_n^{(\pm)2} - M^2} \pi R) &\simeq (-1)^n \frac{1}{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)} \times \left\{ \frac{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2}{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)} \alpha_n^{(\pm)} (M_W \pi R) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{n\pi} \left[-\frac{3}{2} \frac{M^2}{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2} \sqrt{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2} \alpha_n^{(\pm)2} + \left(\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2\right) \beta_n^{(\pm)} \right] (M_W \pi R)^2 \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

On the other hand, the lhs of (30) is simply approximated up to the $\mathcal{O}(M_W^2)$ as

$$\pm (-1)^n \sin(M_W \pi R) \simeq \pm (-1)^n (M_W \pi R). \quad (34)$$

Comparing this with (33), we get coupled equations for the coefficients $\alpha_n^{(\pm)}$, $\beta_n^{(\pm)}$:

$$\frac{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2}{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2} \alpha_n^{(\pm)} = \pm 1, \quad (35)$$

$$-\frac{3}{2} \frac{M^2}{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2} \sqrt{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2} \alpha_n^{(\pm)2} + \left(\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2\right) \beta_n^{(\pm)} = 0, \quad (36)$$

which lead to

$$\alpha_n^{(\pm)} = \pm \frac{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2}{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2}, \quad (37)$$

$$\beta_n^{(\pm)} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 M^2}{\left[\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2\right]^{\frac{5}{2}}}. \quad (38)$$

We thus have obtained the approximate formula for the mass eigenvalues,

$$m_n^{(\pm)} \simeq \sqrt{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2} \pm \frac{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2}{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2} M_W + \frac{3}{2} \frac{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 M^2}{\left[\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2\right]^{\frac{5}{2}}} M_W^2. \quad (39)$$

Then the ratio of the Yukawa coupling to the mass eigenvalue is approximated to be

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{f_n^{(\pm)}}{m_n^{(\pm)}} &= \frac{\frac{g_4}{2} \frac{\partial m_n^{(\pm)}}{\partial M_W}}{m_n^{(\pm)}} \simeq \frac{g_4}{2} \frac{\alpha_n^{\pm} + 2\beta_n^{(\pm)} M_W}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2} + \alpha_n^{(\pm)} M_W} \\ &\simeq \frac{g_4}{2} \left\{ \pm \frac{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2}{\left[\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2\right]^{\frac{3}{2}}} + \frac{3\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 M^2 - \left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^4}{\left[\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2\right]^3} M_W \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

The first term, corresponding to the possible $d = 5$ operator, cancels out between the contributions of two different types of nonzero KK modes with $m_n^{(+)}$ and $m_n^{(-)}$, as it should be. Thus we are left with the summation

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 M^2 - \left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^4}{\left[\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2\right]^3}, \quad (41)$$

corresponding to the contribution of the $d = 6$ operator, which should be UV-finite for 5D space-time. The sum may be rearranged into three terms:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 M^2 - \left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^4}{\left[\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2\right]^3} = - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2} + 5M^2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\left[\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2\right]^2} - 4M^4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\left[\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2\right]^3}. \quad (42)$$

The relevant formulas are the following, where the second and the third formulas are obtained by taking a derivative $-\frac{d}{da^2} = -\frac{1}{2a} \frac{d}{da}$ of the previous formulas:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2 + a^2} = -\frac{1}{2a^2} + \frac{\pi}{2a} \coth(a\pi), \quad (43)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n^2 + a^2)^2} = -\frac{1}{2a^4} + \frac{\pi}{4a^3} \coth(a\pi) + \frac{\pi^2}{4a^2} \frac{1}{\sinh^2(a\pi)}, \quad (44)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n^2 + a^2)^3} = -\frac{1}{2a^6} + \frac{3}{16} \frac{\pi^2}{a^4} \frac{1}{\sinh^2(a\pi)} + \frac{3}{16} \frac{\pi}{a^5} \coth(a\pi) + \frac{1}{8} \frac{\pi^3}{a^3} \frac{\coth(a\pi)}{\sinh^2(a\pi)}. \quad (45)$$

By use of these formulas, the KK mode summation is performed as, with $MR = a$,

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 M^2 - \left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^4}{\left[\left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2 + M^2\right]^3} \\ &= -R^2 \left[-\frac{1}{2a^2} + \frac{\pi}{2a} \coth(a\pi) \right] \\ &\quad + 5R^2 a^2 \left[-\frac{1}{2a^4} + \frac{\pi}{4a^3} \coth(a\pi) + \frac{\pi^2}{4a^2} \frac{1}{\sinh^2(a\pi)} \right] \\ &\quad - 4R^2 a^4 \left[-\frac{1}{2a^6} + \frac{3}{16} \frac{\pi^2}{a^4} \frac{1}{\sinh^2(a\pi)} + \frac{3}{16} \frac{\pi}{a^5} \coth(a\pi) + \frac{1}{8} \frac{\pi^3}{a^3} \frac{\coth(a\pi)}{\sinh^2(a\pi)} \right] \\ &= \frac{\pi^2}{2} R^2 \frac{1 - (a\pi) \coth(a\pi)}{\sinh^2(a\pi)}. \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

Surprisingly, in (46) the terms with power suppression, i.e., the terms proportional to $\frac{R^2}{a^2}$ and $\frac{R^2\pi}{a} \coth(a\pi)$, turn out to disappear completely. This means that the KK mode sum leaves a contribution, which is exponentially suppressed for the case $\pi MR = a\pi \gg 1$:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3(\frac{n}{R})^2 M^2 - (\frac{n}{R})^4}{[(\frac{n}{R})^2 + M^2]^3} \sim 2\pi^2 R^2 (1 - \pi MR) e^{-2\pi MR}. \quad (47)$$

Thus, it has turned out that the contribution of the nonzero KK modes of light quarks to the photonic Higgs decay is strongly suppressed compared to the contribution of the nonzero KK modes of the t quark by the factor $e^{-2\pi MR}$, in contrast to our naive expectation.

Such exponential suppression may be understood from the operator analysis in the previous section. There we found that the $d = 6$ operator including the effect of the Wilson-loop, Eq.(18), contributes to the photonic decay. Now the exponential suppression, seen in (47), is an inevitable consequence of the operator, since the Wilson loop comes from the Feynman diagrams where the fermion loop is wrapped around S^1 of the extra space, where the fermion propagator gets a suppression factor e^{-MR} , as in the case of the Yukawa-type potential, due to the presence of the bulk mass M . Or, in the analogous situation of finite temperature field theory, the factor e^{-MR} can be understood to correspond to the Boltzmann factor $e^{-\frac{M}{T}}$. A similar exponential suppression factor was found in the effective Higgs potential in GHU [7], which is also described by the Wilson loop.

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